
Contents

Foreword	ix
Acknowledgments	xv
Introduction	xvii
Part 1. Foundations	1
Chapter 1. Information, Communication and Learning	3
1.1. Claude Shannon's model	4
1.1.1. Ralph Vinton Hartley, Claude Shannon's forerunner	5
1.1.2. Claude Shannon's formula and the two fundamental theorems of telegraphic communication	6
1.1.3. The eight main characteristics of the Shannonian theory of communication	9
1.2. Gregory Bateson's model	11
1.2.1. The immanent mind and the Batesonian definition of information	11
1.2.2. The Batesonian categorization of learning	13
1.2.3. The eight main characteristics of Batesonian communication theory	16
Chapter 2. Self-organization and Natural Complexity	23
2.1. Self-organization and information creation	23
2.2. Meaning of information in a hierarchical system	31
2.2.1. Order from noise versus organizational noise	31
2.2.2. Complexity and complication	33
2.2.3. Meaning of information in a hierarchical system	36

Chapter 3. Human Memory as a Self-organized Natural System	41
3.1. The theory of functional localization or invented memory	42
3.1.1. The theory of functional localization	42
3.1.2. Against functional localization	45
3.2. Neural Darwinism and inventive memory	47
Chapter 4. Hypotheses Linked to the Model	63
4.1. Six hypotheses relating to the structure of the network	64
4.2. Eight hypotheses relating to the evolution of the network	70
4.2.1. Assumptions related to inter-individual communication	71
4.2.2. Hypotheses related to intra-individual cognition	74
Part 2. Space	81
Chapter 5. Scope, Dimensions, Measurements and Mobilizations	83
5.1. Inter-individual communication and learning	85
5.2. Categorization and learning	92
5.2.1. The creative analogy of weak novelty: the example of Planck's formula	95
5.2.2. The creative analogy of radical novelty: Gregory Bateson's "grass syllogism"	101
Chapter 6. Provisional Regionalization and Final Homogenization	113
6.1. Formation of clusters of actors and regionalization of the network space	114
6.2. Instability and erasure of regions within the network	124
6.3. Evolution of information production at the level of the global network and at the level of each cluster of actors	132
Part 3. Time	141
Chapter 7. Propensities to Communicate, the Specious Present and Time as Such, the Point of View from Everywhere and the Ancestrality's Paradox	143
7.1. Propensities to communicate and the specious present	144
7.2. Subjective time, objective time and time as such	151
7.3. A point of view from nowhere or a point of view from everywhere?	156
7.4. On an alleged "ancestrality's paradox"	161

Chapter 8. Déjà-vu and the Specious Present	171
8.1. A history of interpretations of the déjà-vu phenomenon	172
8.2. Déjà-vu and the specious present: an interpretation	179
Chapter 9. The Acceleration of Time, Presentism and Entropy	187
9.1. Historical time, irreversibility and end of time	188
9.2. On the sensation of acceleration of time and presentism	193
9.2.1. A psychological interpretation of the acceleration of time	193
9.2.2. A socio-historical interpretation of the acceleration of time	197
9.3. Irreversibility of time and entropy of the network	202
9.3.1. A brief presentation of the genesis of the entropy concept	203
9.3.2. The entropy law and network trajectory	205
9.3.3. Entropy theory and trajectory of the complex socio-cognitive network of individual actors	209
Chapter 10. Temporal Disruptions	213
10.1. The translation of beliefs	216
10.2. Revisions of beliefs and the possible worlds semantics	219
10.3. The weak transformation of beliefs: learning and normal science	222
10.4. The radical transformation of beliefs: learning and scientific revolution	226
Conclusion	235
References	249
Index	269